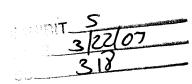
COMMENTS RE: SENATE BILL 318



WILLIAM S. GALLEA, MD PRESIDENT, VIGILANTE CHAPTER MONTANA PILOT'S ASSOCIATION

I am in favor of amending the Montana Recreational Use Statute to include private airstrips and aviation activities on private land.

I believe this amendment is good for the State. The amendment is entirely within the spirit of the present statute, and only enhances its clarity.

The amendment is good for owners of private airstrips. By being specifically named in the law, it helps reassure them that they are protected against unreasonable claims of liability for the actions of their guests.

Finally the amendment is good for private pilots like myself, as it helps assure that private airstrips will remain open not only for recreational activities, but also for emergency and precautionary landings in the event of an unforeseen problem while in the air. It may well even encourage an increased availability of private airstrips in the state to non-commercial pilots.

I urge you to support this amendment.

Thank you,

William S. Gallea 2210 Lime Kiln Road Helena, MT 59601

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